

If I did not mention it, again I will mention M. Scott Peck's book "The World Waiting To Be Born" and some of the other books that he has written, "People of the Lie: The Hope for Healing Human Evil," his discussion about evil in America. His initial book, at least the one that most of us are familiar with is "The Road Less Traveled." We do need more civility and more grace in our lives in America today.

So, Mr. President, I could not allow this situation to develop without again responding from my heart and from my soul to say that if my words the other day, in fact, have heightened or have increased the lack of civility, I apologize to my colleagues. But I ask you as I do this that you be honest with yourselves, ask yourself about your actions and about your rhetoric. Ask yourselves the question, How, in fact, can we find a way to work together?

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. SIMON addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. D'AMATO). The Senator from Illinois.

SINCERITY IN THE U.S. SENATE

Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, first, if I may comment on the remarks of our colleague from Florida. It was a gracious and generous statement on his part. I think all of us—PAUL SIMON has been guilty, like most of us have been guilty from time to time, of getting—you know, we get a little wrought up more than we should from time to time.

Part of the answer to the question raised by Senator MACK is, if we assume that our colleagues are just as sincere about their position as we are, it makes for a different kind of an atmosphere.

If my colleagues have real good memories, you may remember I was a Presidential candidate at one time. I remember a reporter for one of the major newspapers telling me that he had been talking to Senator HELMS and Senator THURMOND, with whom I frequently disagree, and both of them spoke very highly of me. He wanted to know how that could be, and I mentioned, whenever I get into a debate I try to remind myself that the other person is just as sincere as I am.

I think that helps. But that is not the sole answer. The question that Senator MACK poses is, How can we work together more? It is not a question easily answered. But I think it is very important for the future of the Senate and the future of our country, and I thank him for posing the question.

DIRECTING THE SENATE LEGAL COUNSEL TO BRING A CIVIL ACTION

The Senate continued with the consideration of the resolution.

Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, I rise on the subject that the Presiding Officer knows more about than I do, because he has had to sit through all these

Whitewater hearings. I have been designated by the Judiciary Committee as a Democrat to sit on that hearing along with Senator HATCH being designated by the Republicans from the Judiciary Committee.

What do we do? I think whenever—it really is kind of related to what we have just been talking about—when ever we can work things out without confrontation, I think we are better off in this body, and the Nation is better off.

I really believe the White House has gone about as far as they can go without just giving up completely on this constitutional right that people have in terms of the lawyer-client relationship.

I am also concerned about the amount of time that we are taking on this question. I cast one of three votes against creating the committee. Senator GLENN, who is on the floor, cast one and Senator BINGAMAN, who is on the floor, cast one. My feeling was, we were going to get preoccupied and spend a lot of time on something that really did not merit that amount of time.

We have spent infinitely more time: 32 days of hearings, as the Presiding Officer knows better than I, on this; 152 individuals have been deposed; the White House has produced more than 15,000 pages of documents; and Williams & Connolly, the President's personal attorney, has produced more than 28,000 pages of documents. We have spent a huge amount of time.

We have spent much more time on Whitewater in hearings than we spent on health care in hearings last year on an issue infinitely more important to the people of this country; much more time on Whitewater than on hearings on drugs, for example. We may have had 2 or 3 days of hearings on drugs this year. I do not know. It certainly is not more than that. We have had 1 day of hearings so far this year on Medicare.

I think when we spend huge amounts of time on this, we distort what happens in our country. I read the excellent autobiography of the Presiding Officer, Senator D'AMATO, and unlike a lot of autobiographies that are obviously written by someone else, it is pure vintage AL D'AMATO. But I know AL D'AMATO, our distinguished colleague, represents a State with a lot of poverty. We have spent infinitely more time on this issue than we have spent on the issue of poverty in our country. Mr. President, 24 percent of our children live in poverty. No other Western industrialized nation has anything close to that.

I hope we use the telephone a little more frequently, get together a little more and see if we cannot work this thing out without confrontation. I think everyone benefits.

Let me add one final thing. I am 67 years old now. I have been around long enough to know that when we get into these things, we really do not know the

ultimate consequences. It is like throwing a boomerang: It may hit here, it may hit there, it may hit somewhere else.

I hope this resolution is turned down and the alternative of Senator SARBANES is approved. But I am a political realist. I know that is not likely to happen, because of the partisan kind of confrontation that has occurred and is occurring in this body much too much. But I hope we try, once this gets over, to pull our rhetoric down, and I think all of us benefit when that happens.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. President, I want to thank the Senator from Illinois for his eloquent and heartfelt remarks. He has the admiration of us all. He is going to be missed in this institution.

Mr. President, I would like to speak for a few minutes with regard to the issue at hand having to do with the subpoena and the President's claim of privilege to resist that subpoena.

I have been called upon over the past several weeks and months on many occasions, by members of the media, and others, to comment on the Whitewater investigation, to give my opinion. Others have, too, I am sure. In my case, I was minority counsel to the Watergate committee many years ago. People want to draw those comparisons.

I refuse to make those comparisons. I do not think it is appropriate to make those comparisons. In fact, I have said as little as possible about the whole matter. I left town as a much younger man, having spent a year and a half investigating Watergate, and I had been on another committee assignment or two as counsel to the U.S. Senate. Some time ago, I kind of became tired of investigating and, frankly, would like to spend more of my time in trying to build things up than in trying to appear to be trying to tear things down.

I think there is something important going on here that has to be commented upon with regard to the issue at hand. It looks like perhaps something might be worked out with regard to this particular subpoena, with regard to the particular notes that are being sought by this subpoena, and I hope that is the case. But there is something more important that is happening here that is going to have ramifications, I am afraid, for the next several months in this body and in this country, and that is, we should not get so caught up in the fine print and lose sight of the fact that, once again, we have a President who is claiming privilege to shield information from a committee of the U.S. Senate and ultimately from the American people, and it is a very, very weak claim at best. But even if it were a strong claim, Mr. President, it concerns me greatly that the President, under these circumstances, with the history that we have in this country of congressional